

CINMS CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP
1/18/12 REPORT
Environmental Defense Center Conference Room,
906 Garden Street, Santa Barbara

Present: Linda Krop, Chair (EDC), Kristi Birney (EDC), Vic Cox, Debra Herring, Mike Lum, Brandon Doheny (Bren School), Kiya Gornik (Bren School), Michael Sheehy (SBCK), Stephanie Mutz

Staff: Sean Hastings, Dani Lipski, Sarah Hutto

I. INTRODUCTION

II. SHIPPING

- A. PARS – since the new CARB rule went into effect, some ships are back in the Channel. CINMS is tracking data to determine whether there are certain patterns, e.g., category, speed and direction of ship traffic within the Channel. About half of the ships remain south of the Islands. We are waiting for the Coast Guard rule-making process. We would like the Coast Guard to consider initiating the rule-making for the modified TSS in the Channel separate from, and perhaps in advance of, the rule-making for the new TSS outside the Islands.
- B. Sanctuary ship speed petition: we are waiting for a response from NOAA and the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. CINMS staff submitted its information last fall.
- C. SAC presentations re ship traffic patterns (see above) and new technologies to enhance marine mammal sightings data collection: CINMS staff will discuss potential new technologies to collect and report data more efficiently and accurately. Mike mentioned a technology used by Save the Redwoods (iNaturalist).
- D. Whales & Shipping Workshop: EDC has posted a website with powerpoints and videos:
(http://www.edcnet.org/learn/current_cases/save_the_whales/whale_ships_workshop.html)
- E. 2012 whale season: we noted that it would be nice to receive a report in March regarding how the CINMS and other agencies plan to address the upcoming summer whale migration season.

III. CWG OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY REPORT

- A. Report status: Kristi reported that EDC hired a new intern to help research and draft the section of the report focusing on policy and regulations. Our effort to seek input from the regulatory agencies has been challenging because their processes are in flux. We are also seeking experts and

agency personnel that would be willing and able to make a presentation to the SAC. Dani informed us that the Research Activities Panel will meet in February; we could approach the group to see if they are interested in reviewing our draft report (particularly the sections on technology and potential effects of offshore renewable energy projects).

- B. Ocean Protection Council report: Kristi reported that the OPC just came out with a report regarding policy and regulatory framework for pilot projects in California.

IV. MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

- A. Status: the new State MPAs in our region went into effect on January 1. SBCK is working with volunteers to monitor the social response to MPAs.
- B. CINMS/EDC Bren School group project proposal: Kristi, Brandon and Kiya provided a presentation regarding their proposal to help implement the Social Science Plan by conducting research regarding private recreational boat use and value within the CINMS. This project will use data from 2006-07 and run a model that will help the CINMS fully evaluate the socio-economic effect of a variety of attributes that may influence where private boaters chose to recreate within the CINMS. Should the data allow, there will be an emphasis on understanding how marine protected areas may affect boaters' decisions. The proposal is due January 27, 2012. The CWG noted that the project will focus on broader issues and attributes, not just MPAs. We also noted that this project implements a portion of the Social Science Plan that otherwise lacks funding and resources. The CWG supports the request for the SAC to send a letter of support to the Bren School.
- C. SAC presentation re: MPA education and outreach, MPA socioeconomic study: review of CINMS MPA education and outreach, and how efforts will be extended to new south coast MPAs. Stephanie mentioned the role of fishers in educating peers about the MPAs. Sean pointed out the need for collaboration, coordination, and consistency in materials and messages. We also noted the extra challenges in reaching out effectively to recreational users. Michael showed us the SBCK map of Channel Islands and mainland MPAs.
- D. Underwater Parks Day is Saturday, January 21.

V. OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

- A. West Coast Action Plan implementation: Dani reported that the Sanctuary program is seeking funding for a workshop on communicating ocean acidification issues.
- B. EDC Public Service Announcement: EDC is finalizing plans for a 30-second PSA. Our goal is to present the PSA at the national SAC chairs'

meeting this spring and then implement a distribution plan. The purpose of the PSA is to compel people to care about ocean acidification and direct them to learn more about the issue at an existing CINMS website: acidocean.org.

VI. OTHER ISSUES

- A. Stephanie reported on the proposal to launch a Community Sustainable Fishery (CSF) program to promote purchase of local sustainable seafood, and to keep more seafood local. The program will be launched this spring or summer. Edible Santa Barbara will host an Edible Institute on March 11-12 and will feature panels on sustainable seafood.
- B. SAC Annual Work Plan: we handed out the 2011 work plan status report, as well the draft work plan for 2012. CWG members were encouraged to review the draft 2012 plan and provide comments to Kristi prior to the SAC meeting.

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